

followed by uterine contraction, cessation of the flooding, and expulsion of the secundines.—*Lond. and Edin. Monthly Journ. Med. Sci.*, May, 1842.

74. *Facts relative to the statistics of Menstruation.*—The following results have been obtained by different observers.

Petrequin, from 272 cases noticed in France, gives the period of its appearance as follows:

In 4 at 10 years of age	In 27 at 18 years of age
10 at 11	12 at 19
15 at 12	7 at 20
33 at 13	5 at 21
33 at 14	1 at 22
45 at 15	
48 at 16	272
32 at 17	

Hence, the period at which it generally occurs in France, is between 13 and 15 years of age.

He also fixes the period of cessation at between the 35th and 55th years. From a comparison of 60 cases, it appears that the discharge ceases between 35 and 40 years of age, in about one eighth; between 40 and 45, in one quarter; between 45 and 50, in one half; and between 50 and 55, in one eighth of the whole.—*Medico-Chir. Rev. from Bull. Med. Belge.*

Dr. Adelmann of Fulda in Germany, ascertained the period at which menstruation had commenced in 507. According to him, the average age in girls with black hair was 16; in those with brown, it was 17, and in those with fair hair, between 16 and 17. The average duration of each menstrual period, was four or five days for the black haired, and four for each of the others. Only one in 102 cases was met with who menstruated regularly at the interval of three weeks: all the rest did so at regular periods of four weeks.—*Edinburgh Med. and Surg. Journ. from Neue Zeitschrift für Geburtskunde.*

✱ The researches of Brierre de Boismont have been more extensive than either of the foregoing.

As to the first appearance, of 276 women living in the country, the mean age was 14 years 10 months; of 205 living in towns, 14 years 9 months; and of 359 either born in Paris, or who lived there at least a year prior to menstruating, the mean age was as follows; in 171 poor women, 14 years 10 months, which agrees with Marc d'Espine and Bouchacourt's statements; in 135 of the middling classes, 14 years and 5 months; in 32 girls in M. Bouvier's Orthopædic establishment, 14 years 8 months, and in 53 of the highest ranks, 13 years 7 months. Chomel, Andral and Recamier, likewise fix the age for commencing menstruation, among the upper classes, at between 12 and 14. The average age obtained by the union of 359 of all classes, in the capital, is 14 years 6 months. Marc D'Espine places the mean figure in Paris at 14.965. It is at Manchester, 15.191, and at Marseilles and Toulon 14.015. Of 652 women, 63 have never menstruated regularly. The period of return is generally 28 days, but in a great number examined, 30 days were found to intervene. The duration appears to be very irregular. Of 562 women, it continued:

In 172, 8 days	In 21, 6 days
119, 3 days	12, 7 days
78, 4 days	17, about 9 days
62, 2 days	
46, 5 days	562
35, 1 day	

The menses continued longest in the inhabitants of the city, and the nervous and indolent.—*Medico-Chir. Rev.* April 1842, from the *Memoirs de l'Academie Royale de Medecine.* T. R. B.

75. *Extraordinary Birth.*—Dr. SCHNACKENBERG relates in the *Neue Zeitschrift für die Geburtskunde*, a case in which a dead child was born, the head, right

foot, left hand, and umbilical cord, all presenting at once. The right parietal bone of the head was applied against the pubes of the mother; the left was turned backwards, with the sole of the right foot resting on it; this latter being covered by the left hand, the back of which lay against the hollow of the sacrum. When arrived at the vulva, the left hand was protruded before the head; the body of the fetus, after its birth, preserved the same position as it had in the womb.—*Prov. Med. and Surg. Journ.*, May 14th, 1842.

76. *Abstraction of the Uterus after delivery.*—In our No. for August 1839, will be found an account of two cases in which the uterus was dragged away by ignorant midwives, and two other examples of the same horrid transaction are there alluded to, and we have now to add to this catalogue of atrocities, a fifth example, related by Dr. PERACCHI in the *Annali Univ. di Medicina*. The subject of this last case, Rosa Gazzola, 38 years old, was attended in her fifth confinement, in 1837, by a *soi-disant* sage femme. She was well delivered, but after the expulsion of the placenta, she suffered from intense uterine pains, and a feeling of weight in the vagina. The midwife examined her, and stated that these pains were caused by the presence of another child in the uterus. In pursuance of this opinion, she introduced her hand into the vagina, said she felt the child, seized it, and made great and forcible traction. The patient felt that she was being lacerated; four strong men were holding her, while the midwife continued her efforts at traction. At last, after unheard-of efforts, the pretended child was dragged out of the vagina, and the midwife remarked that the nates were born, the rest of the body was behind. In order to aid her efforts, she wrapped up the protruded portion tightly in a handkerchief, and continuing to pull, she finally tore away the entire uterus from the body of the unfortunate mother.

Dr. Peracchi, who was sent for, found tremendous hemorrhage, and the patient constantly fainting. She appeared like a corpse, the pulse could not be felt, a large quantity of the bowel protruded through the vulva, and the vagina was full of coagula of blood. The doctor was much alarmed at the state in which he found the unhappy sufferer, and still more so when he ascertained the womb had been torn away. He returned the bowels, raised the pelvis, &c., and had recourse to cordials; the patient gradually revived; fever set in, requiring bleeding, &c.; and the poor woman finally recovered.

At the period when the catamenia should be present, Gazzola suffers from general prostration, oppression, vomitings, headaches, and abdominal pains. Her hair has fallen, the face is pale, the muscles thin and, as it were, atrophied; the voice is harsh and disagreeable; speech difficult. The vulva is natural, the vagina about three inches long, and terminating by a thin yielding cul-de-sac. At the antero-superior part of the canal is an irregular, hard, and painful cicatrix, about an inch and a half long. The urine and fæces pass with difficulty and pain. The examination of the organ showed it was completely torn away, together with the Fallopian tubes and broad ligaments.

The midwife was proceeded against criminally, and sentenced to one month's imprisonment and a small pecuniary fine.

77. *Polypus of the Uterus expelled by the action of Secale Cornutum.*—M. P. MOYLE was requested to attend without delay a Mrs. W., who had suddenly lost a large quantity of blood from the womb, and had just recovered from a long state of syncope. The blood was lost in about two or three minutes. She had frequently had small hemorrhages previously, and was becoming weaker in consequence. Her legs and thighs were swollen almost to bursting, her countenance pallid, respiration difficult, and general health decaying. After she had recovered greatly from her fainting, and after Mr. Moyle had satisfied himself that the flooding was owing to polypus of the uterus, he proceeded as follows:

"A fresh appearance of hemorrhage induced me to give her at once two drachms of the tincture of *secale cornutum*, the valuable effects of which I had often before experienced. I also applied a bandage firmly round the abdomen, and applied cloths, wetted with cold vinegar and water, to the pudendum. The